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## **EX PARTE NOTICE VIA ECFS**

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Expanding the Economic and Innovation Opportunities of Spectrum Through Incentive Auctions, GN Docket No. 12-268; and

Incentive Auction Task Force and Media Bureau Seek Comment on Post-Incentive Auction Transition Scheduling Plan, MB Docket No. 16-306

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On December 21, 2016, Steve Sharkey and Chris Wieczorek of T-Mobile USA, Inc. ("T-Mobile"), and Davina Sashkin of Fletcher, Heald & Hildreth, PLC, counsel to T-Mobile, met with Matthew Berry, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Ajit Pai.

In the meeting, T-Mobile briefed Mr. Berry on the company's participation in the post-Incentive Auction transition planning process and commended the Incentive Auction Task Force (IATF) staff for their extensive analysis and modeling of resources and actions necessary to make the post Incentive Auction broadcast transition a success. T-Mobile noted its swift deployment of 700 MHz spectrum and noted that the performance of this low band spectrum has exceeded the company's expectations for improving coverage for consumers in urban building and rural environments. T-Mobile affirmed its intention to deploy any 600 MHz spectrum it may obtain in the current auction with equal urgency to meet consumer demand.

T-Mobile further advised Mr. Berry that the record reflects that there is sufficient time and resources available to accomplish the dual policy objectives of repurposing spectrum for wireless broadband use while ensuring continued vitality of the television broadcast industry. T-Mobile advised Mr. Berry that there are opportunities for speeding the transition and discussed the options for flexibility which it has already provided to the IATF staff. The participants also discussed concerns about a possible insufficiency of funds for broadcaster relocation reimbursement as premature, noting that the FCC staff will have notice of any

potential shortfall at the outset of the transition and can then work with Congress to seek additional funding, if necessary. In sum, there is no basis for delaying the transition plan for reasons of funding or resource constraints, and strong public interest reasons for ensuring that the IATF's proposed Transition Scheduling Plan is implemented in accordance with the 39-month timeline adopted by the Commission and affirmed by the Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

Finally, T-Mobile recommended to Mr. Berry that the Commission provide clarification of the prohibited communications rule to allow pre-transition planning to get underway. Specifically, T-Mobile advised Mr. Berry of the universal support for broadcasters to have certainty about their ability to communicate with other broadcasters, vendors and wireless carriers after the Final Stage Rule is satisfied in order to engage in the necessary pre-planning that will ensure the timely success of the Transition.

Consistent with section 1.1206(b)(2) of the Commission's rules, an electronic copy of this letter is being filed in the above-referenced dockets. Please direct any questions regarding this filing to the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

Davina S. Sashkin

Counsel for T-Mobile USA, Inc.

cc: Matthew Berry